

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 00727 221408Z
ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 FRB-01 OMB-01
/046 W

-----116273 222053Z /73

R 220854Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3095

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 0727

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD
SUBJECT: EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT

REF: STATE 016183

1. AS TOBACCO IS THE ONLY BULK AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY IMPORTED
IN VOLUME DIRECTLY FROM THE US, BY SWEDEN, AGATTACHE REQUESTED
COMMENTS ON SUBJECT ACT BY GOVERNMENT OWNED SWEDISH TOBACCO
COMPANY.

2. SVEN ANDREN, PRESIDENT OF THE SWEDISH TOBACCO COMPANY,
HAS REPLIED IN PART:
"AS YOU KNOW WE ARE SINCE THE EARLY TWENTIES REGULARLY
BUYING US TOBACCOS FROM EACH CROP, AT PRESENT ABOUT 16,000,000
LBS WITH A VALUE OF \$25,000,000. EACH YEAR WHEN OUR PURCHASES
HAVE BEEN FINISHED AND THE TOBACCOS HAVE BEEN PAID BY US WE USUALLY
STORE OUR TOBACCOS FOR ABOUT ONE YEAR IN THE USA BEFORE
SHIPMENT TO SWEDEN. THIS IS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY THROUGH
AGING IN THE SUITABLE US CLIMATE.

"EVEN IF WE TODAY CAN HARDLY FORESEE ANY QUANTITATIVE LIMITATIONS
ON TOBACCO EXPORTS FOR REASONS OF SHORT SUPPLY WE BEG TO CONFIRM
THAT IF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY WE COULD COMPLY WITH ALL THE
REQUIRED CONDITIONS FOR OBTAINING EXEMPTION FROM EXPORT
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LIMITATIONS.

"WE WOULD, HOWEVER, REALLY CONSIDER IT AN UNNECESSARY EXPRESSION
OF FUTILE RED TAPE IF FROM NOW ON AND IN NORMAL TIMES OUR
COMPANY WOULD BE COMPELLED TO APPLY FOR SUCH EXEMPTIONS YEAR AFTER
YEAR FOR EVERY SINGLE PURCHASE WHICH WE WANT TO STORE FOR
SOME TIME IN THE USA.

"TO AVOID SUCH BUREAUCRACY WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT SOME KIND OF A PERMANENT GENERAL EXDWPTION FOR EXPORT OF ONE YEAR'S NORMAL PURCHASES BE GRANTED THOSE REGULAR FOREIGN BUYERS WHO USUALLY STORE THEIR PURCHASES OF TOBACCO IN THE USA FOR SOME TIME. SUCH BUYERS, AS WELL AS THEIR NORMAL PURCHASE QUANTITIES, COULD EASILY BE IDENTIFIED AND REGISTERED BY THE US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

"FOR YOUR INFORMATION WE BEG TO ADVISE THAT THE LEAF TOBACCOS BOUGHT BY US IN THE USA ARE EXCLUSIVELY BOUGHT FOR USE IN OUR PRODUCTION AND NOT FOR ANY KIND OF TRADING."
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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